**In the Claims:**

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A system for programming a microprocessor-controlled device having a ~~limited~~ set of mechanical functions that are started and stopped by a time-of-day (TOD), comprising:

~~a computer program specific to the microprocessor-controlled device, the program stored in and executable from digital memory accessible to a computing appliance other than the microprocessor-controlled device; and~~

an interactive interface presented ~~by the computer program~~ on a display ~~of the computing appliance,~~ of a computer appliance enabling a user to select through the interactive display individual ones of the ~~limited~~ set of mechanical functions of the microprocessor-controlled device, and to select specific ~~times~~ TOD for ~~initiating~~ starting or stopping the mechanical functions selected~~, the selected functions and specific times comprising output information of the computer program~~;

wherein the computer ~~program~~ appliance saves the ~~output information~~ TOD selected for each mechanical function selected, in a form compatible with and recognizable by the microprocessor-controlled device, to be transferred to the microprocessor-controlled device.

21. (Currently amended) The system of claim 20 further comprising ~~a portable memory medium~~ one of a thumb drive or a magnetic strip, wherein the output information is saved to the ~~portable memory medium~~ thumb drive or a magnetic strip to be transferred to the microprocessor-controlled device.

22-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) The system of claim 21 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the programmable device~~, the device having an interface for the portable memory medium~~ is a timing device for a sprinkler system, and the mechanical functions are opening and closing of switches for controlling water valves .

29-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently amended) A method for programming a microprocessor-controlled device having a ~~limited~~ set of mechanical functions that are started and stopped by a time-of-day (TOD), comprising the steps of:

(a) selecting through an interactive display presented by a computer program specific to the microprocessor-controlled device on a monitor screen of a computer appliance, individual ones of the ~~limited~~ set of mechanical functions of the microprocessor-controlled device;

selecting for the individual functions ~~selected~~ specific ~~times~~ TOD for ~~initiating~~ starting and stopping the mechanical functions; and

~~providing the selected functions and times for initiation as output information to be transferred to the microprocessor-controlled device~~ saving the TOD for each selected mechanical function selected in a form compatible with and recognizable by the microprocessor-controlled device, to be transferred to the microprocessor-controlled device.

32. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31 further comprising a step for downloading the ~~output information~~ TOD for each selected mechanical function to ~~a portable memory medium~~ one of a thumb drive or a magnetic strip for transfer to the microprocessor-controlled device.

33-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the programmable device~~, the device having an interface for the portable memory medium~~ is a timing device for a sprinkler system, and the mechanical functions are opening and closing of switches for controlling water valves.

40-41. (Cancelled)